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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/618,597

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Chih-Mo Wu

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EXAMINER

LE, UYEN CHAU N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/618,597	Applicant(s) EHRHART, MICHAEL	
	Examiner Uyen-Chau N. Le	Art Unit 2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Prelim. Amdt/Amendment

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the Preliminary Amendment filed 15 July 2003.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-12, 14 and 16 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Re claim 1, line 1: Substitutes "SATA" with -- Serial Advanced Technology Attachment Interface (SATAI) --.

Re claim 1, line 4: Substitutes "the first wafer module" with -- a first wafer module --.

Re claim 1, line 5: Substitutes "a first wafer module" with -- the first wafer module --.

Re claim 1, line 5: Substitutes "the IDEI" with -- an Integrated Disc Electronics Interface (IDEI) --.

Re claim 1, line 5: Substitutes "it" with -- the first wafer module --.

Re claim 1, line 6: Substitutes "the second wafer module" with -- a second wafer module --.

Re claim 1, line 8: Substitutes "a second wafer module" with -- the second wafer module --.

Re claim 1, line 9: Substitutes "the input" with -- input --.

Re claim 1, line 9: Substitutes "the external plugging media storage. Once" with -- an external plugging media storage; once --.

Re claim 1, line 10: Substitutes "it" with -- the second wafer module --.

Re claim 1, line 10: Substitutes "the connected signal" with -- a connected signal --.

Re claim 1, line 10: Substitutes "it" with -- the second wafer module --.

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Re claim 1, line 11: Substitutes “the media storage” with -- the external media storage --.

Re claim 1, line 13: Substitutes “two plugging slot” with -- two plugging slots --.

Re claim 1, line 14: Substitutes “silicon card” with -- the silicon card --.

Re claim 2, line 3: Substitutes “the SATA bus” with -- a SATA bus --.

Re claim 3, line 3: Substitutes “a first slot” with -- a first plugging slot --.

Re claim 3, line 6: Substitutes “a second slot” with -- a second plugging slot --.

Re claim 3, line 10: Substitutes “a first plugging slot” with -- the first plugging slot --.

Re claim 3, line 11: Substitutes “220” with -- (120) --.

Re claim 4, line 2: Substitutes “the means” with -- means --.

Re claim 4, lines 2-3: Substitutes “the reading card” with -- the reading card unit --.

Re claim 4, line 3: Substitutes “using the first plugging slot” with -- using only the first plugging slot --.

Re claim 6, line 1: Substitutes “The silicon card” with -- A silicon card --.

Re claim 6, line 1: Substitutes “SATAI” with -- Serial Advanced Technology Attachment Interface (SATAI) --.

Re claim 6, line 4: Substitutes “the first wafer module” with -- a first wafer module --.

Re claim 6, line 5: Substitutes “SATAI” with -- the SATAI --.

Re claim 6, line 6: Substitutes “the input” with -- input --.

Re claim 6, lines 6-7: Substitutes “the reading device” with -- a reading device --.

Re claim 6, line 7: Substitutes “the external plugging media storage. Once it receives” with -- an external plugging media storage; once the second wafer module receives --.

Re claim 6, line 8: Substitutes “the connected signal” with -- a connected signal --.

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Re claim 6, line 8: Substitutes "it" with -- the second wafer module --.

Re claim 6, line 10: Substitutes "its external media" with -- the external media --.

Re claim 6, line 11: Substitutes "its external media" with -- the external media --.

Re claim 6, line 12: Substitutes "it" with -- the reading card unit --.

Re claim 6, line 12: Substitutes "a silicon card" with -- the silicon card --.

Re claim 7, line 3: Substitutes "the SATA bus" with -- a SATA bus --.

Re claim 8, line 6: Substitutes "a second slot" with -- a second plugging slot --.

Re claim 8, line 10: Substitutes "a first plugging slot" with -- the first plugging slot --.

Re claim 8, line 11: Substitutes "220" with -- (120) --.

Re claim 9, line 2: Substitutes "the means" with -- means --.

Re claim 11, line 2: Substitutes "the reading cell" with -- a reading cell --.

Re claim 11, line 2: Substitutes "the interface" with -- an interface --.

Re claim 12, line 2: Substitutes "the means" with -- means --.

Re claim 12, lines 2-3: Substitutes "the reading card" with -- the reading card unit --.

Re claim 12, line 3: Substitutes "using the first plugging slot" with -- using only the first plugging slot --.

Re claim 14, line 2: Substitutes "the means" with -- means --.

Re claim 16, line 2: Substitutes "the reading cell" with -- a reading cell --.

Re claim 16, line 2: Substitutes "the interface" with -- an interface --.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-12, 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu et al (US 6,751,964) in view of Lai et al (US 6,725,291).

Re claims 1 and 6: Liu et al discloses a Silicon Card/disk For Reading Device by applying SATA comprising: a SATAI that connects with a Data Processing Device generates a connected signal to a First Wafer Module; the first Wafer Module converts the SATAI into the IDEI when the first wafer module receives a connected signal (i.e., via delivery unit 50) and generates a converted signal to the Second Wafer Module (i.e., electric circuit board provided in the main body 20); a the second wafer module/electric circuit connects with the First Wafer Module to process the input and output controlling, programming of the Silicon Card For Reading Device, and reading an external plugging media storage (i.e., memory card 60); a reading Card Unit connects with the Silicon Card For Reading Device's external media storage and supports at least two Plugging Slots [21, 22] allowing external media devices to connect with Silicon Card For Reading Device (fig. 1; col. 4, line 4 through col. 5, line 12).

Liu et al fails to teach or fairly suggest that once the second wafer module/electric circuit receives the connected signal as described above, the second wafer module/electric circuit will be in waiting state and examine the utilization of the media storage at any moment.

Lai et al teaches upon insertion of a card, the second wafer module/control device 34 issues command(s) for determining a card type (figs. 2-3; col. 2, line 65 through col. 3, line 59).

It would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the card type determination process of Lai et al into the system as taught by Liu et al in order to provide Liu et al with a more accurate system in which a card type being determined before starting a reading or writing process (i.e., different types of memory cards have different response speeds), thus preventing error during reading or writing data from/to the card, and therefore an obvious expedient.

Re claims 2 and 7: wherein the SATAI can be a connector with 7 Pin and connects with the SATA Bus (i.e., delivery unit 50) (Liu et al: fig. 1; col. 4, line 62 through col. 5, line 12).

Re claims 3 and 8: wherein the Reading Card Unit Comprising: a First Slot 22/insertion cassette 40 can be designed as a PCMCIA or CF interface allowing to support ATX Device, ATA Flash Card, Compact Flash Card type 1/11, Micro Drive etc (Liu et al: fig. 3; col. 4, lines 39-49); a Second Slot 21/insertion cassette 30 can be designed as a particular interface allowing to support one of SD, MMC, RS MMC, MMC ROM Card, XD etc, or designed as a combined interface in order to use various memory cards at the same or different times (Liu et al: fig. 2; col. 4, lines 27-38); the First Plugging Slot [22, 40] and the Second Plugging Slot [21, 30] control their working time through the Second Wafer Module/electric circuit (Liu et al: fig. 1; col. 4, line 53-61).

Re claims 4, 9, 12 and 14: wherein means that the Second Wafer Module uses the Reading Card can be either single using the first plugging slot, the Second Plugging slot, or using repetition of anyone of the First Plugging Slot and the Second Plugging slot at the same time (Liu et al: fig. 1; col. 4, lines 50-61).

Re claims 11 and 16: wherein a Reading Cell can be designed as the interface with single plugging slot by applying CF interface (Liu et al: fig. 5; col. 5, lines 54+).

5. Claims 5, 10, 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu et al as modified by Lai et al as applied to claims 1 and 6 above, and further in view of Shin (US 6,708,230). The teachings of Liu et al as modified by Lai et al have been discussed above.

Re claims 5, 10, 13 and 15: Liu et al/Lai et al has been discussed above but is silent with respect to a Switch Unit can be designed to add to the Silicon Card For Reading Device to provide a function of automatically switching between using the First Plugging Slot and the Second Plugging Slot by user.

Shin teaches switches [SW1-SWN] are provided for selecting the slots [21A-21N] (figs. 3-4; col. 3, lines 3-24 and col. 4, line 5 through col. 5, line 34).

It would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate a switch for switching between slots as taught by Shin into the system of Liu et al/Lai et al in order provide Liu et al/Lai et al with a more accurate system, preventing signal interference between the two slots, thus eliminating error during reading/writing data from/to an inserted card, and therefore an obvious expedient.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The patents to Jones et al (US 6438638 B1); Liu et al (US 6524137 B1); Huang et al (US 6718274 B2); Yen (US 6744634 B2); Yen (US 6813164 B2); Tseng et al (US 6813668 B2); Cedar et

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al (US 6820148 B1); Jones et al (US 6832281 B2); Mambakkam et al (US 6839864 B2); Piau et al (US 6859856 B2) are cited as of interest and illustrate a similar structure to a silicon card for reading device by applying serial advanced technology attachment interface.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Uyen-Chau N. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-2397. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri. 5:30AM-2:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, MICHAEL G. LEE can be reached on 571-272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Uyen-Chau N. Le
March 06, 2005